T/SOR/22/1/5

COMMITTEE OF 100

President: EARL RUSSELL, O.M. F R.S.

13 GOODWIN STREET
LONDON, N.4
ARCHWAY 1239

20th. March 1963.

Dear George,

Last night I attended a meeting of the C.N.D. National 'Aldermaston Committee. I gave an account of the proposals of the Committee of 100, the intention to hold a Public Assembly, and the reasons why. They in turn raised the following points for consideration by the Committee of 100.

1. The Campaign plan a vigil in the Houses of Parliament/Parliament Square are, for the duration of the March, which will involve some 500 people. This has not been finally agreed with the authorities but it is hoped to have it settled by the end of the week. The proposed Assembly might will lead to the vigil having to be abandoned.
2. A service has been arranged in Westminster Abbey for Easter Monday.
3. It was felt that there had been tacit agreement in the past not to present marchers with a clash of 'loyalties'. People on the march were of all levels of commitment and many of course would be there for the first time.
4. The criticisms of the last day of the march of last year were generally accepted. Plans for this year were that the Hyde Park rally would be the final event, loudspeaker arrangements would be adequate this year, the tins of milk would be collected at this stage, lunch arrangements were to be earlier in the day and this would get rid of any 'picnic' atmosphere at the rally.
5. It was desired that the Aldermaston March should march on the Houses of Parliament, the passage through Parliament Square (including the vigil) to Trafalgar Square was the linch-pin of the final stage of the march. The proposed Assembly would make this attempt abortive, raise considerable problems of re-routing the march, and it could not be seen as to what in fact would be achieved by this. It was also felt that the general opinion would be that the Committee had forced the situation onto the March.
6. As Parliament Square would almost certainly be closed, or the march made to go by another route, the vigil and the Abbey service might also have to be dropped.

These then are the main points raised by the Campaign. They also requested that when the National Working Group meets on Saturday that one of their members be allowed to attend the debate on Aldermaston.

Sincerely,

Pete

(Peter Moule, Secretary).